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## VIA E-MAIL AND US MAIL

Docket Coordinator, Headquarters  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
CERCLA Docket Office  
Mail Code 5305T  
1301 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

**Re:** National Priorities List Comments: Chemetco, FDMS Docket ID Number  
EPA-HQ-SFUND-2009-0583

To Whom it May Concern:

This public comment letter is submitted on behalf of Industrial Asset Development, Inc. ("IAD") regarding the proposed listing of the Chemetco Site in Hartford, Illinois (the "Site") on the National Priority List (NPL). The docket identification number is EPA-HQ-SFUND-2009-0583. As set forth more specifically below, IAD requests that the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA") defer or withdraw the listing of the Site on the NPL.

On July 29, 2009, IAD entered into a Purchase Agreement with the Trustee for the bankruptcy estate of Chemetco, Inc. (the "Trustee") in order to process metal-bearing materials on the Site, which, upon completion of the processing, is expected to result in IAD's acquisition of the Site. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Illinois approved the Purchase Agreement on September 21, 2009. Prior to and subsequent to entering the Purchase Agreement, IAD has been developing work plans for the processing of the metal-bearing materials on the Site, and has been diligently working with the Trustee, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA") and U.S. EPA to negotiate an agreement so that IAD could process the slag and scrubber sludge and remove the refined, processed materials from the Site.

The workplans being developed include a demolition plan to decontaminate and remove a number of structures from the Site and plans for processing the metal bearing materials. Successful implementation of these plans at the Site will be transformative and the lynchpin of future development and job creation not only on the Site property but in the area around the Site which is well served by rail, road and

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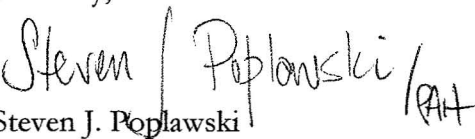
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river transportation corridors. IAD's actions thus far show a clear commitment and determination to process the metal-bearing materials at the Site, including 900,000 tons of slag and 46,000 tons of scrubber sludge, thereby unlocking the Site's potential as an engine for future development and job creation. This commitment and determination were recognized by the Trustee in seeking and obtaining approval of the sale of the Chemetco property to IAD.

Given the fact that IAD has made a substantial commitment to the Site (including making significant expenditures towards professional fees in order to evaluate the site and the processing technology for the slag and scrubber sludge), it is premature as well as potentially unnecessary and detrimental for the Site to be listed on the NPL. If IAD is successful in completing demolition of the site structures and processing the bulk of the metal bearing materials on the site, redevelopment of the site and surrounding area could still, based in large part upon the negative connotation of a site being listed on the NPL, be significantly hampered should U.S. EPA list the Site on the NPL. NPL listing frequently makes it more difficult and sometimes impossible to attract the credit financing and investors necessary to turn around a site which has been lying dormant for 8 years and which IAD believes is otherwise well-positioned for revitalization and job creation, once the demolition and processing workplans are implemented. Accordingly, IAD respectfully requests that U.S. EPA defer listing of the Site on the NPL pending the outcome of IAD's negotiations with IEPA and U.S. EPA concerning the processing of materials on-site, leaving open the possibility of withdrawing the proposed listing once processing is underway or at some other later stage in the process.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this comment.

Sincerely,

  
Steven J. Poplawski

PAH